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CENTRAL FAX CENTER

Serial Number 10/673,650

AUG 17 2006

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the following paragraph, which begins on page 4, line 17, by inserting the word "to" between the words "ends" and "a":

The distal section of the shaft includes an inner and outer tube extending generally between the hypotube and the balloon. The inner and outer tubes are affixed near their proximal ends to a point on the hypotube; and they are affixed near their distal ends to the balloon. The inner tube defines a guidewire lumen extending from a distal guidewire port which is at or near the catheter distal end, to a proximal guidewire port which is at or near the proximal end of the inner tube. An inflation lumen is defined by the shaft, extending from a proximal inflation port defined by the proximal hub, through the hypotube and then through an annular space defined between the inner and outer tubes, into the balloon.

Please please amend the following paragraph, which begins on page 9, line 4:

The integration of the hypotube tubular portion and a distal portion of the hypotube component, rather than a separate hypotube and stiffening wire which are affixed together, is also preferable.

Please please amend the following paragraph, which begins on page 9, line 22:

A stent of any suitable type or configuration may be provided with the catheter of the present invention, such as the well-known Palmaz-Schatz balloon expandable stent and the successful BX Velocity stent. Various kinds and types of stents are available in the market, and many different currently available stents are acceptable for use in the present invention, as well as new stents which may be developed in the future. The stent may be a cylindrical metal mesh stent having an initial crimped outer diameter, which may be forcibly expanded by the balloon to a deployed diameter. When deployed in a body passageway of a patient, the stent may be designed to preferably press radially outward to hold the passageway open. Figure 22 shows a cross-section view of a balloon catheter with a stent [[46]].